

Community Involvement Challenges at Vapor Intrusion Sites

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New Sites vs Old Sites

- **New Sites**

- **Chance to introduce the concept of vapor intrusion at the beginning**
- **Vapor intrusion bundled with all other phases of investigation**

- **Old Sites**

- **Adding another investigation at “mature” sites can cause mistrust**
- **Why was this not considered at the beginning?**
- **Reinvestigation at delisted sites presents additional work for community involvement coordinator and project manager**
- **Residents who were initially not affected may be pulled into “new” investigation**
- **Can slow or halt site redevelopment efforts**

Explaining Vapor Intrusion

- Contaminated water, air and soil – easy concepts to explain
- Unseen and odorless vapors coming from the ground - not so easy to explain
- Zeroing out household contributors
- The intrusion of vapor intrusion testing

Meeting the Challenges

- **Meet with residents and community as soon as possible**
- **If possible, go to each home, business, school and “sit down” with the people**
- **Make a connection**
- **Explain the situation in common terms**
- **Share the data**

